

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method for the treatment of water related outer ear canal disorders comprising the steps of applying a water resistant and antimicrobial film topically to the external ear canal.
2. (Original) A composition for the treatment of water related outer ear canal disorders comprising a water repellent agent and an antimicrobial agent in a film forming liquid capable of being instilled in the outer ear canal in droplet form.
3. (Original) A composition according to claim 2 in which the water repellent agent is constituted by a water repellent silicone polymer adapted, in combination with the antimicrobial agent or on its own, to constitute a film forming liquid.
4. (Original) A composition according to claim 3 in which the silicone polymer is constituted by a polysiloxane.
5. (Currently amended) A composition according to ~~either of claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2 in which the antimicrobial agent is a natural product capable of acting against a broad range of bacterial and fungal infections.
6. (Original) A composition according to claim 5 in which the antimicrobial agent is Tea Tree oil (the essential oil of the Tea Tree (*Melaleuca alternifolia*)).

7. (Original) A composition for the treatment of water related outer ear canal disorders comprising a water repellent agent in the form of a polysiloxane and an antimicrobial agent in the form of the essential oil of *Melaleuca alternifolia* or Tea Tree oil in which the two oils are combined to produce a film forming liquid that is capable of being applied topically to the external ear canal by instillation in droplet form.

8. (New) A composition according to claim 3 in which the antimicrobial agent is a natural product capable of acting against a broad range of bacterial and fungal infections.

9. (New) A composition according to claim 4 in which the antimicrobial agent is a natural product capable of acting against a broad range of bacterial and fungal infections.